

The Pipeline

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Murphy Appointed Inspector General For Health Services

By Gil Lawson, CHS Communications

Pamela J. Murphy, an attorney with more than 10 years of state government experience, has been appointed the inspector general for the Cabinet for Health Services.

Murphy has served as deputy secretary of the Justice Cabinet since February 1997. She previously worked in the attorney general's office as deputy attorney general, assistant deputy attorney general and as director of the criminal appellate division.

The inspector general's office licenses and regulates health care and child care facilities such as nursing homes, hospitals and day care centers, conducts audits and performs investigations involving fraud and abuse.



Pamela J. Murphy, Inspector General

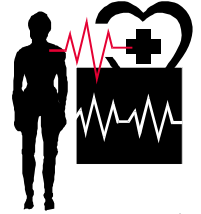
"I'm looking forward to the challenges of serving as inspector general," Murphy said. "The office performs important work that touches the lives of thousands of Kentuckians every day."

Murphy is a Louisville native who received bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Louisville. She became an attorney in 1984 and worked as a public defender. She joined the state Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet in 1988 as a staff attorney.

Murphy worked on Gov. Paul Patton's crime bill during the 1998 legislative session and this year began serving on the Kentucky Bar Association's Ethics Committee.

Murphy and her family have lived in Simpsonville since 1992. She is married to Clancy O'Brien, a retired Louisville police Detective. They have four children: Amanda, Melissa, Billie and Clayton.

Health Conference Scheduled



A former Kentuckian who is now a congresswoman from New York, Louise Slaughter, will be the keynote speaker at a November conference on health care, Unraveling the Health Care Dilemma. Slaughter, a native of Harlan, is a nationally recognized leader in the health care field.

The conference is jointly sponsored by the Cabinet for Health Services, the University of Kentucky Center for Health Services Management and Research, and the Western Kentucky University Department of Public Health. It will be held Nov. 18 at University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Bowling Green, and will also feature other local and national experts in the field of health care.

For more information, call (502) 564-2851 or (800) 853-2851. Information, including an online registration form, is also available on the Internet at <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/LTPRC/Registration.HTM>.

CFC Leadership Meeting Topics Sept. 13

The following topics were discussed at the Sept. 13 leadership meeting of the Cabinet for Families and Children. See your supervisor for more information.

- ❖ Year 2000 Readiness and Possible Problems
- ❖ Travel: Tresa Short to New Orleans on EBT "Reconciliation"
- ❖ Internal Consultants: "Project Management" Course, Oct. 26 – 29
- ❖ Employee Appreciation Week
- ❖ Certified Public Managers Program: Curriculum; Awards Ceremony Nov. 9 at Civic Center
- ❖ Accreditation
- ❖ New Comp Time Policy
- ❖ Employee Recognition and Continuing Excellence Awards, Former DSAs

CFC Employees of the Month for September

By Margaret Davis Harney, CFC Communications

Garnett McRoberts and **Jan Bean** were selected as the Cabinet for Families and Children Employees of the Month for September, and were among those honored during Employees Recognition Week Sept. 20 – 24.



Rep. Jimmie Lee and CFC Secretary Viola Miller congratulate Garnett McRoberts, center.

Garnett McRoberts, an administrative assistant in CFC's Employee Services Branch, has 20 years experience with the Cabinet in the clerical and administrative fields. She was nominated by co-worker Melony Collins.

After 20 years' service, McRoberts' knowledge of multiple jobs is "astounding," Collins said, and she is always willing to lend a helping hand, often going "above and beyond the call of duty."

McRoberts' knowledge of computers, and her willingness to share it, is also a great asset to her co-workers. She can do anything on a computer, and never gets discouraged, Collins said of McRoberts' ability to help her co-workers solve problems. "There isn't anything she can't figure out."

Her extensive knowledge is an asset not only to McRoberts co-workers in the Employee Services Branch, but to all CFC employees. She is dedicated to seeing employees receive the best service possible.

The Franklin County resident has three children and seven grandchildren.

When co-worker Kathy Adams first nominated **Jan Bean** to be employee of the month, Bean was an internal policy analyst with CFC's Division of Child Support at First City Complex. Now she is the division's assistant director.

"Jan exemplifies superior customer service skills and professionalism," Adams wrote in her nomination. Bean handles the most difficult customer calls and complaints, Adams said, but her tact and diplomacy are a positive

reflection on not only her division and cabinet, but on all of state government.

In addition to Bean's professional side, she also has a playful side to her personality, and keeps her co-workers smiling with her practical jokes and antics. She has even been known to ride a three-wheeler through the hallways during her break. Bean also shows her caring side, Adams said, by bringing "pick-me-up" gifts to co-workers experiencing personal problems.

The Franklin County resident has more than 20 years' of state government service. Her interests include reading, walking and buying shoes.



Jan Bean, center First City's Employee of the Month

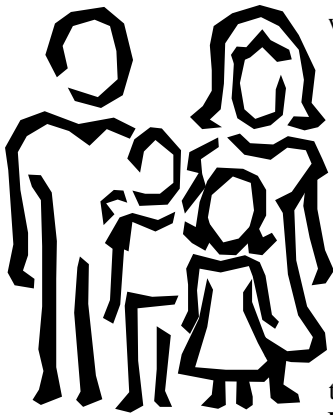
CFC selects two outstanding employees each month for special recognition – one from staff working in the Human Resources Building and one from staff at First City Complex.

Their peers, either co-workers or workers from another office or branch of CFC, nominate employees for the honor. Nominations are not retained from one month to the next. To submit a nomination, contact Charlene Nation of the Employee Services Branch, 564-7770.

Pipeline, a weekly newsletter for employees of the Cabinets for Families and Children and Health Services, welcomes reader comments and contributions. Items for *Pipeline* are due by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday; items for intercom announcements are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday. Call (502) 564-6786 or send information to Patricia Boler at Patricia.Boler@mail.state.ky.us

“Adoption Wednesday” New Beginning for 40 Children

It was called “Adoption Wednesday” – an unprecedented flurry of judges’ signatures marking the last step for more than 40 children to join their new families.



Beaming moms, dads and kids watched as Jefferson County Family Court Judges Mason Trenaman and Jerry Bowles signed more adoption orders between them in one afternoon on Sept. 22 than typically are signed statewide all month.

Recent federal and state laws created the impetus for the celebration. The Adoption and Safe Families Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in 1997, and House Bill 142, which passed the

state legislature in 1998, streamlined the adoption process.

Children now are less likely to have to undergo life-threatening abuse or neglect before the cabinet and the courts step in, and children also spend less time waiting for a permanent home once intervention has begun.

“This is a great day for Kentucky,” said Cabinet for Families and Children Secretary Viola Miller. “The cabinet has always believed that all children deserve a permanent home with loving adults, and for more and more Kentucky children, that belief is becoming a reality.”

While 46 children were adopted Sept. 22, as many as 40 more Jefferson County children will join them in the next few weeks as CFC’s commitment to plow through paper work continues.

Miller said the partnership between CFC’s Jefferson County staff and the courts “directly benefits the children by reducing the time they spend waiting for an adoptive home.” She also praised the adoptive parents, most of whom were foster parents who decided to take the next step.

“Some of the most unsung heroes in this system are our foster parents, and today is another example of them stepping forward to provide loving, stable, permanent homes these children so desperately need,” she said.

More Foster Care News

Shirley Hedges, CFC foster mom and president of the National Foster Parent Association, represented the country’s foster parents in Washington, D.C., Sept. 24 at “A Celebration of Increased Adoptions.”

Foster Care Pilot in Kinship Care Effective Oct. 1

Protecting children and keeping families together sometimes prove contradictory missions for the Cabinet for Families and Children. When a child is in danger of abuse and/or neglect from parents or guardians, the cabinet has no choice but to remove the child from danger.

In some cases, relatives willing to keep the child in a familiar environment lack the financial and other resources to do so. But now, there’s an alternative between a dangerous home and foster care/adoption.

CFC’s new Kinship Care program allows a child removed from his or her home to stay with other family members and still receive support from the Cabinet.

“Kinship Care offers financial support as well as counseling, child care, health care and case management services to family members who want to take in these children but feel unable to do so without help,” says Secretary Viola P. Miller

Relatives must still meet the basic care standards CFC requires, but do not have to jump through the more extensive hoops – training, frequent home inspections, etc. – demanded of foster care families.

Eventually, if the child cannot be reunited with his parents, the cabinet will ask the relative caregiver to seek permanent custody so that the child can stay in a permanent, familiar home.

The new program will begin in three pilot counties – Jefferson, Warren and Pike – Oct. 1, and will expand statewide in July 2000.

CFC is funding Kinship Care through savings Kentucky has realized in the federal welfare block-grant program known as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF.

Only Two More Deferred Comp Expos



The final two Investment Education Expo ’99 sessions, sponsored by Deferred Comp, are in October as follows:

Morehead – Oct. 27, Ramada Inn (formerly Holiday Inn), 1698 Flemingsburg Rd., Oak Room

London – Oct. 28, London community Center, 529 S. Main St., rooms A and B

Helpful Web Sites



Something new will be added to these *Helpful Web Sites* each week. Remember to “bookmark” the ones you will want to refer to often. If you’ve found a helpful site you would like to share in this column, e-mail it to <mailto:margaret.harney@mail.state.ky.us>

For Kids (Thanks to Eva Smith-Carroll, CHS Communications, for the first two links listed)

<http://www.hhs.gov/kids> – Dept. of Health and Human Services info for kids
<http://kidshealth.org> – a health site for kids created by experts in pediatric medicine
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/kids/html/kidshome.html> – news from the White House for kids

Preparing for Y2K

<http://webserve.dma.state.ky.us> – Kentucky Division of Emergency Management
<http://www.state.ky.us/year2000/index.htm> – Kentucky’s Y2K Project
<http://www.fema.gov/y2k> – Federal Emergency Management Agency info on Y2K issues
<http://www.usda.gov/aphis/FSWG> – info from the federal government on Y2K and the food supply
<http://www.fema.gov/y2k/bltn00.htm> – a consumer guide to Y2K preparation

Health and Human Services

<http://epn.org> – Electronic Policy Network, info from a diverse network, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Children’s Defense Fund, Second Harvest, the Center for Law and Social Policy, AARP Research, the Alliance of Community Health Plans, and many others.
<http://welfareinfo.org> – up-to-date information, policy analysis and technical assistance on welfare reform
<http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/gov/domviol/toc.htm> – Governor’s Office of Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Services
<http://www.cswe.org> – the Council on Social Work Education
<http://www.ggw.org/cap/emancipated.html> – the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, including a version in plain English
<http://www.os.dhhs.gov> – U.S. Department for Health and Human Services

Miscellaneous

<http://www.kctcs.net> – new site for Kentucky Community and Technical College System

Personnel/Benefits

<http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/personnel/pershome.htm> – a calendar of year 2000 health insurance benefit fairs to be held in September

Notes and Activities



- Cookbooks to benefit **KECC** are now available for \$7. Contact Bonnie Cox, (502) 564-5028 or Peggy Burch, (502) 564-6478, ext. 3341.
- **Network – Women in State Government** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m., at the Columbia Steak House, Frankfort. For more information, contact Barbara Pulliam, president, at (502) 564-7863.
- The Women’s **Health Conference**, sponsored by the University of Kentucky, will be held Oct. 4 -5 in Lexington. Contact Janet Braun, (606) 257-5037, for more information.
- The **Fibromyalgia Support Group** meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Highland Christian Church, Versailles Road, in Frankfort. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend. For more information, call Linda Burke of Health Services at 564-7213.
- Nominations for **CFC Employees of the Month** are due by the 15th of each month. For more information, or to submit a nomination, contact Charlene Nation of the Employee Services Branch, CHR-5, phone 564-7770. She will also accept nominations sent by e-mail.

Don’t Forget ...

Health insurance open enrollment ends Oct. 8. For complete information, including costs and frequently asked questions, see the Personnel Cabinet’s Web site at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/personnel/pershome.htm>.

October Reminder...

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. For more information on breast cancer, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345, or see their Web site at www.cancer.org.



Help fund breast cancer research and education efforts on Oct. 8, National Denim Day. For a \$5 donation, state government employees can wear jeans to work that day. Last year National Denim Day raised \$6 million for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and Kentucky’s state government employees contributed over \$8,000 to that total.

Families and Children at Play

The Follies talent show raises funds for KECC

Employees are honored during Employee Recognition Week

Charlene Nation drew for door prize winners as CFC Employee Recognition Week ended.

Teresa Suter mistook the drawing box for a hat.



Peggy Chandler (left) recently retired from the Cabinet for Health Services, but she returned to sing for the KECC follies. Buddy Irvin and Gina Rue, below, of the Justice Cabinet, contributed singing talent and the sound equipment.



Amanda Breen and Brooke Abbott, right, were two of the talented young performers from Frankfort Christian Academy. Brooke is the stepdaughter of CFC employee Dana Abbott.



Jean Lawson was honored as the CFC employee with the most service – 39 years! Rep. Jimmy Lee and CFC Secretary Viola Miller congratulated her.



All CFC Employees of the Month for 1999 (above) were honored during Employee Recognition Week.



CFC's Employee Suggestion Award Recipients are (left to right) Melony Collins, Rhonda Knight, and Jackie Wells, with Secretary Viola Miller and Rep. Jimmie Lee. Winners not pictured are Martha Smith and Justin Schul.

